

In the claims:

Please amend the claims as shown below:

1. (Currently amended) A method of bleaching cellulose pulp
in a bleaching line, having at least two bleaching steps
5 comprising:
providing a first (D1) and a second (D2) bleaching step, as
seen in the direction of a flow direction of the cellulose
pulp, which the bleaching steps have having wash apparatuses
10 (W4, W5) for the pulp arranged after the first and the second
bleaching steps, respectively,
and in which leading wash liquor and where appropriate
dilution liquor is led in principle in counter-currently to
the a pulp flow through the bleaching steps in the bleach
15 line, characterised in that a substantial portion of
supplying a substantial portion of the wash liquor, or all of
it, is supplied by means of a main conduit, (1), wherein
each one of said independently supplying the wash
apparatuses (W4, W5) is independently supplied by means of
20 first branch conduits (L1, L 3) connected to said the main
conduit (1),
each one of said each of the wash apparatuses (W4, W5)
independently bleeds bleeding out wash filtrate by means of
second branch conduits (L2, L 4) connected to said the main
25 conduit (1), and
said the main conduit has having an outlet end (10) which
bleeds for bleeding out at least some of said a portion of the
wash filtrate from said the wash apparatuses (W4, W5).
2. (Currently amended) A method according to claim 1,
30 characterised in that said wherein main conduit has an inlet
end which under steady state conditions continuously is fed
with wash liquid and an outlet end (10) which under steady
state conditions continuously bleeds out at least some of said

the wash filtrate from ~~said~~ the main conduit.

3. (Currently amended) A method according to claim 2,
~~characterised in that~~ wherein the inlet and outlets ends are
5 arranged at opposite ends of the main conduit with ~~said the~~
branch conduits connected to the main conduit ~~inbetween~~ the
inlet and the outlet ends.

4. (Currently amended) A method according ~~any of the above~~
10 ~~claims, characterised in that~~ claim 1 wherein the main conduit
is connected to receive and distribute filtrate that is mainly
acidic or mainly alkaline ~~alkalic~~.

5. (Currently amended) A method according to claim 4,
15 ~~characterised in that~~ wherein there are two main conduits, one
to receive and distribute mainly alkaline filtrate and one to
receive and distribute mainly acidic filtrate.

6. (Currently amended) A method according to ~~any preceding~~
20 ~~claim, characterised in that~~ upstream claim 1 wherein the
method further comprises providing a first branch position
~~(A1) in the an~~ upstream end of the main conduit ~~(1), and a~~
main pressurising device ~~(P20) is provided which that~~ supplies
fresh wash liquid and ~~pressurises~~ pressurizes the main conduit
25 and establishes a basic flow in the main conduit in a
direction in the main conduit in reverse to ~~the a~~ formed flow
of ~~cellulose~~ the pulp in ~~the a~~ bleaching line, ~~wherein~~
~~preferably said the~~ pressurising device being located
connected to the main conduit at a position at ~~the an~~ opposite
30 end in the main conduit in relation to the outlet end ~~(10)~~.

7. (Currently amended) A method according to ~~any preceding~~
~~claim, characterised in that~~ said claim 1 wherein filtrate is
led to the main conduit ~~(1), via a pump device (P21', P22')~~.

8. (Currently amended) A method according to ~~any preceding claim, characterised in that the~~ claim 1 wherein pressure within the main conduit ~~(1)~~ is maintained at a pressure of at least 0,5 bar above atmospheric pressure.

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9. (Currently amended) A method according to claim 8, ~~characterised in that wherein~~ the pressure within the main conduit is maintained, during steady state, at a pressure below 3 bar, ~~preferably within the range of 1 - 2 bars~~
10 ~~pressure above atmospheric pressure.~~

10. (Currently amended) A method according to claim 9, ~~characterised in that wherein~~ wash liquor is led from the main conduit to the ~~respective~~ wash apparatuses ~~(W5, W4)~~ via each
15 ~~respective~~ supply lines ~~(L1A, L3A)~~, by means of a pump devices ~~(P21, P22)~~.

11. (Currently amended) A method according to claim 9 ~~or 10,~~ ~~characterised in that wherein~~ dilution liquid ~~to at least one~~
20 ~~position of the bleach line~~ is supplied directly via a branch line ~~(L1B)~~ connected to the main conduit ~~(1)~~.

12. (Currently amended) A method according to claim 8, ~~characterised in that wherein~~ the pressure in ~~said the~~ main
25 conduit, during steady state, is maintained within ~~the a~~ range ~~of 3 - 20 bar, preferably 4 - 10 bar, more preferred about 5 - 6 bar~~ above atmospheric pressure, whereby in the preferred mode ~~supply pumps for wash filtrate may be dispensed with.~~

13. (Currently amended) A method according to ~~any preceding claim, characterised in that~~ claim 1 wherein an intermediate bleach step ~~(EO-EOP)~~ is provided intermediate ~~said at least~~
30 ~~two the~~ bleach steps, ~~which bleach step has an opposite pH-level compared to said two bleach steps, wherein at least a~~
35 ~~portion of the filtrate from a wash apparatus (W3) belonging~~

~~to said intermediate stage is not taken back to the main conduit (1).~~

14. (Currently amended) A method according to claim 1,
5 ~~characterised in that~~ wherein the outlet end ~~(10)~~ is controlled by a pressure and/or flow controlling valve.

15. (Currently amended) A method according to claim 14,
10 ~~characterised in that said~~ wherein the pressure and flow control valve, ~~can achieve~~ provides feed back control of the a main pressurising device ~~(P20)~~ to secure a predetermined pressure and/or flow through the main conduit ~~(1)~~.

16. (Currently amended) A method according to claim 15,
15 ~~characterised in that the~~ wherein a flow at ~~said the~~ outlet end, during steady state, is within the a range 0,1 - 12 m³, ~~preferably normally within 0,5 - 10 m³.~~

17. (Currently amended) A bleaching line for bleaching
20 cellulose pulp in a bleaching line, comprising:
~~—having at least two bleaching steps comprising segments~~
having a first ~~(D1)~~ and a second ~~(D2)~~ bleaching step, as seen in the a flow direction ~~of flow~~ of the cellulose pulp, ~~which the~~ bleaching steps ~~have~~ segments having wash
25 apparatuses ~~(W4, W5)~~ for the pulp arranged after the first and the second bleaching segments step, ~~respectively,~~
~~and in which wash liquor and where appropriate dilution liquor~~ is led via bleach lines ~~(L1, L3, L1A, L3A)~~ ~~in principle in~~ counter-currently to the pulp flow direction of the pulp
30 through the bleaching segments steps ~~in the bleach line,~~
~~characterised in that there is arranged a main conduit (1) to~~ supply a substantial portion of the wash liquor, or all of it, ~~wherein~~
~~—each one of said the~~ wash apparatuses ~~(W4, W5)~~ ~~is~~
35 being independently connected to ~~said a~~ main conduit ~~(1)~~ by

means of first branch conduits ~~(L1, L3)~~,
—each one of ~~said the~~ wash apparatuses (W₄, W₅) ~~is~~
being independently connected to ~~said the~~ main conduit ~~(1)~~ to
bleed out wash filtrate by means of second branch conduits
5 ~~(L2, L4)~~, and
~~said the~~ main conduit ~~is being~~ arranged with an outlet end
~~(10)~~ to bleed out at least some of ~~said the~~ wash filtrate from
~~said the~~ wash apparatuses ~~(W4, W5)~~.

10 18. (Currently amended) A bleaching line according to claim
17, ~~characterised in that wherein~~ the outlet end is arranged
opposite an inlet end of the main conduit, ~~with said the~~
branch conduits ~~(L1, L3, L2, L4)~~ being connected to the main
conduit ~~inbetween~~ the inlet end and the outlet end ~~(10)~~.

15 19. (Currently amended) A bleaching line according to claim 17
~~or 2, characterised in that wherein~~ there are two main
conduits, one to receive and distribute mainly alkaline
filtrate and one to receive and distribute mainly acidic
20 filtrate.

20. (Currently amended) A bleaching line according to ~~any of~~
~~claims 17 — 19, characterised in that upstream claim 17~~
wherein a first branch position ~~(A1)~~ is arranged in the an
25 upstream end of the main conduit (1), and a main pressurising
device ~~(P20)~~ is provided to supply fresh wash liquid and to
pressurise the main conduit ~~(1)~~.

21. (Currently amended) A method according to ~~any of claims 17~~
30 ~~— 20, characterised in that claim 17 wherein~~ a pump device
~~(P21', P22')~~ is arranged within at least one of ~~said the~~
branch conduits ~~(L2, L4)~~ to pump ~~said the~~ filtrate to the main
conduit ~~(1)~~.

35 22. (Currently amended) A bleach line according to ~~any of~~

~~claims 17 -- 21, characterised in that~~ claim 17 wherein there is arranged at least one branch line ~~(L1B)~~ connected to the main conduit ~~(1)~~, to supply dilution liquid to at least one position of the bleach lines.

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23. (Currently amended) A bleaching line according to ~~any of claims 17 -- 22, characterised in that~~ claim 17 wherein the outlet end ~~(10)~~ is arranged with a control device, ~~preferably in the form of a pressure and/or flow controlling valve.~~

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24. (Currently amended) A bleaching line according to claim 23, ~~characterised in that said~~ wherein the control device ~~and/or said main pressurising device (P20)~~ is connected to a pressure sensing device ~~(PC)~~ to control pressure and/or flow

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in the main conduit ~~(1)~~.